were at last as many as conveniently could let in The Speaker was led up to the bar by Sir William Knollys and Sir John Fortescue, and presented to her Majesty, to whom he made three low reverences, and was approved and allowed by her, notwithstanding his excuse of weakness and inability made according to the usual form

Then Mr. Speaker craved leave of her Majesty to show the dutiful thoughts and earnest affections of her loyal subjects, and so made a vehement invective against the tyranny of the King of Spain, the Pope's ambitions, the rebels of Ireland, which, he said, were like a snake cut in pieces which did crawl and creep to join themselves together again And lastly with prayers to continue the prosperous estate and peace of this Kingdom which had been defended, as he said, by the mighty arm of our dread and sacred Queen

To which the Queen answered openly herself, * No, but by the mighty hand of God, Mr Speaker *

Then he proceeded to the last part to beseech for freedom of speech for every particular member of the House and their servants. And lastly, if any mistaking of any message delivered unto him from the Commons should happen, that her Majesty would attribute it to his weakness in delivery or understanding and not to the House

Then the Queen called the Lord Keeper to her to whom she spake something in secret, and after the Lord Keeper spake in commendation of Mr Speaker's grave speech, well divided, well contrived , the first proceeding from a sound invention, and the other from a settled judgment and experience [c] Touching your other request for freedom of speech,' said he, * her Majesty willingly consenteth thereto, with this caution that the

time be not spent in idle and vain matter, pointing the same out with froth and volublhty of words, whereby the speakers may seem to gain some reputed credit by unbolding themselves to contradiction^ and by troubling the House of purpose with long and vain orations to hinder the proceeding in matters of greater and more weighty importance *

For liberties to themselves and persons, her Majesty commanded him to say that she ever intendeth to preserve the liberties of the House , ' but/ quoth he, * you should not main-